

SCHOOL CONSOLIDATION PROBLEMS

Presented to Board of Trade by F. H. Foss—Suggestions For Improvements in the City—Smoke Nuisance Bettered and Progress Reported on Little Water Street Widening.

When the December meeting of the board of trade was called to order at eight o'clock by President Joseph D. Haviland, at the Buckingham Memorial, on Monday evening, about fifty members were present. Secretary Henry W. Tibbits read the minutes of the last meeting, which were accepted, and two new names, Frederick R. Stark and Frank E. Aker, were proposed and accepted for membership.

Secretary Tibbits read a letter from the Central Vermont railroad in reply to one sent from the board commending the road for improvements made at the Central Vermont railroad station.

Smoke Nuisance and Second Track. John D. Hall, chairman of the committee on public improvements, told of a letter received from the Consolidated road regarding the smoke nuisance on Shetucket street, and Mr. Hall said that merchants said that there had been some improvement in the smoke nuisance. He told of writing to the road of Agent Jewett's suggestion for another track, enabling the road to do their switching at other than the business men's hours. Mr. Hall recommended that the matter be left in the hands of the committee for further effort to bring about the desired change.

Little Water Street Widening. Mr. Hall also reported on the Little Water street widening, saying that he believed a city meeting was imminent on this subject and would be called for the future. He said he thought that the widening of the street would be a very fair figure. He thought that what it had been reported that Mr. Shannon would want his property was a very fair figure. Mr. Hall said he could not see the advantage of having the street wider in the middle than at both ends. He said that a petition signed by over twenty-five citizens had been handed the mayor asking for a public meeting on this subject.

State Board Meeting. When President Haviland gave opportunity for any of the members to report on the meeting of the board of trade recently in New London, Frederick W. Cary made a brief statement of the meeting, speaking particularly of the plan adopted by the state board of trade for the industrial development of that city, which was to be accomplished through the erection of a factory building, for which subscription for the stock were received from the public. Mr. Cary also mentioned the discussion over the Sherman anti-trust law and Mayor Mahan's talk on the growing industrial importance of New London. New London doesn't expect any great transatlantic line to be established there, but if they could get the business of the tramp steamers they would be satisfied.

President Haviland spoke of some of the pleasant social features of the convention.

Consolidation of Schools. Acting School V. Frank H. Foss was next introduced to speak upon the application of the consolidation of schools in city and town. Norwich, he said, was distinct in the conditions which confronted it upon school consolidation. He said that the consolidation of schools in the city and town was a very similar act, and that the town has voted under the old act and that will apply.

In the makeup of the new town school committee, the first thing for the selectmen to decide is how many there shall be, whether 5, 9 or 12, with a three-year term, or three with a two-year term. The election is the first Monday in June and they take office in July. If there are to be 12

or 6 on the committee, no one can vote for more than half; if 3, vote for 5; if 4, vote for 2. When the board is elected it meets and divides itself into three classes, serving for one, two and three years respectively. All the school business will hereafter be done in the town meeting, and the new town school committee will manage all the property of the town relating to schools, determine the number and qualification of scholars to be admitted, and determine the district boundaries, which may or may not coincide with the present limits.

Financial Side. As to the financial side, there seems to be some conflict here, but it is considered that the property of all the districts is to be appraised by the first selectmen, one member of the new committee and a member of the board of assessors. The debts of the districts are also to be determined and a tax laid equal to the appraised value. Each district is then credited on the rate bill with the amount their property exceeds their indebtedness.

Mr. Foss next took up consideration of how many the new school committee should consist of, saying that probably all would agree that three was too small a number, and the question is whether it would be either 5 or 12. A committee of 5 or 12 meant equal party representation and with this number it might be that politics might result in blocking the attempt to do anything. A committee of 9 would mean a majority for one party, meaning that the majority would be able to do something. He showed that all the effect of consolidation could be really nullified if the new committee should choose to continue school affairs much as they are now.

Uniformity on Textbooks. As far as a saving to the town on the financial side, he said, he could not see that there was much to be gained by making a difference in the total cost of running the schools. It would be a question whether to have a general superintendent for the schools, with several principals for groups of schools or some other method of placing principals, but the great advantage of consolidation would be in centralization and efficiency, the whole working under one method and with one teaching idea. Uniformity of textbooks would be a saving to the parents and often a year in school to the children when families moved from one district to another. In this connection he spoke a word for free textbooks, which he said he believed might be one of the outcomes of consolidation.

One question to be decided also would be whether to continue three of the small districts, Wauveous Hill, Plain Hill and Scotland road. Some schools are working on the eight-grade and some on the nine-grade system and this would have to be adjusted. There would also be such things as kindergartens, drawing teachers and manual training to be decided.

Hiring of Teachers. Mr. Foss said that one serious effect of the coming consolidation upon teachers related to how they shall be hired for next year. Most of the good teachers have their places for the next year already secured by May, but under the consolidation plan there would be no one with authority to hire them at that time, and it looks as if they must wait this year until the committee gets into office in July.

Because of all these perplexing questions, he said in conclusion, it was of prime importance what kind of men should constitute the first committee, and they should be selected with the utmost care to secure men of experience and ability to handle these difficult points to be adjusted.

MacDonald and Mahan. The acting school visitor was applauded as he concluded his interesting talk, and President Haviland expressed the thanks that the board felt for the explanation of the subject that had been given. The president also made a statement at the meeting in January State Highway Commissioner J. H. MacDonald and Mayor Mahan of New London would be the speakers.

Suggestions for Norwich. President Haviland went on to make some suggestions about things that could be done to improve the looks of some places in Norwich. He characterized the appearance of Thames street, Washington street and Franklin street in wet weather as nothing that the citizens would be pleased to have any stranger look at. He advocated permanent improvements for the benefit of the city, and he hoped that the board of trade would show its influence in city meeting to have some of the principal streets put in a creditable condition. He also advocated more attention being given to saving the city's beautiful trees, and that an effort should be made to have the Franklin street sewer outlet carried out into the middle of the stream. There were places also along the banks of the Shetucket river, he said, in the rear of the bank buildings which should be made garden spots instead of refuse heaps.

Marble Factory. Mr. Hemenway stated to the meeting that Norwich had attracted him through its shipping advantages and the population behind it, and went on to show samples of marble made from a quarry in the western part of the state, and they were willing to bring that machinery here and install it in some vacant plant in Norwich, and later to buy and erect a plant which could take care of their business. Gypsum can be landed in Norwich at

32 per ton, and it won't cost for the material any more than ordinary wood. He showed the field for marble, running into the tens of millions in building lines, and showed some of the other things that their marble could be used for, such as clocks, pedestals, billiard balls, and small articles from their waste pieces, and the dust is land plaster. This manufactured marble can be colored in any shade. They can produce one inch thick marble for 20 cents per square foot, sold for building purposes. It sells for from \$2 to \$4 to \$8 per square foot, giving some indications of the profit in the business.

Mr. Hemenway concluded by telling the members how advantageous to the city it would be if it could induce new good industries to locate here, and he only wanted a chance to prove to the business men that his proposition was worthy the financial help he wanted. His brief statement was given a hearty burst of applause.

This concluded the business of the meeting and the evening concluded with a short social period in which sandwiches, doughnuts, cheese and coffee were served by the entertainment committee under direction of A. S. Spalding.

SMOKER AND SOCIAL HELD BY THE EAGLES. Interesting Entertainment Followed by Chowder.

Norwicherie, No. 367, Fraternal Order of Eagles entertained on Monday evening in fine style in Eagles' hall at a smoker and social session for the members and their friends, of whom 150 were present. For the early part of the evening there were selections by the Nightingale quartette which were loudly applauded, and hard shoe dancing by Michael Ahearn, who was called back to repeat his clever footwork. Raymond O'Neill and Eugene Colkins were also heard in solos in fine voice.

One of McDougall's best oyster chowders was served, following which there were more musical numbers and some topnotch card tricks by St. Stephens of the Auditorium vaudeville artists, which made a great hit. The committee in charge of the successful evening included Samuel J. Frank, Bliss, T. Slattery, Victor Payment, Florence Driscoll and John Fitzgerald.

Tuesday and Wednesday

THE MOHICAN COMPANY

Tuesday and Wednesday

Fresh, Pure Foods at Unmatchable Prices

YOUR PURCHASES DELIVERED FOR FIVE CENTS IN CITY

Corned Beef Choice Cuts lb. 5½c	Newly Milled Oat Flakes 5 lbs. 18c
Pure Lard - 3 lbs. 32c	Yellow Onions 5c qt. 4 qts. 19c
Pork Chops CHOICE ALL AT 12½c	POT ROAST - lb. 8c
Lamb Chops PRIME	HAMBURG STEAK 3 lbs. 25c
Rib Roast	ROASTING CHICKENS lb. 16c
Sirloin Porterhouse Steak lb.	Best LEMONS , doz. 21c
	POTATOES , peck . . . 31c
	Florida Oranges , doz. 21c
	LAYER FIGS , lb. . . 12½c
RICE —Clean, bright 3 lbs. 17c	LENOR SOAP - 7 bars 25c
New PRUNES - lb. 12c	Borden's Malted Milk , value 50c, 39c
Prepared Buckwheat pkg. 12c	Yellow MEAL 6 lbs. 15c
Best Bread Flour 1-8th sack 75c	Salt Pork , Extra Heavy - 2 lbs. 19c
OYSTERS , Fresh, Solid qt. 33c	Heinz' Pickles in bulk

THE Porteous & Mitchell COMPANY.

Begin Today!

Start out bright and early this morning to do your Christmas shopping. It is the only safe thing to do, as every day that passes now will see the stocks depleted by the sale of some of the choicest articles. For the convenience of holiday shoppers we will give the location of holiday stocks.

Millinery Room
Christmas Cards, Calendars, Games, Puzzles, Books of all kinds

Main Floor
Stationery, Perfumery, Gloves, Ribbons, Leather Goods, Embroidered Hosiery, Fancy Goods, Women's Neckwear, Confectionery, Silk Hosiery, Toilet Articles, Umbrellas, Handkerchiefs, Art Goods

Red Cross Seals
Red Cross Christmas Seals are now on sale here at Candy department near main entrance. Buy them and put them on your Christmas packages.

Dress Goods Room
Jewelry, Girls' Sweaters, Women's Sweaters, Boys' Sweaters, Waist Patterns, Dress Patterns

Down Stairs
Glass Ware, China Ware, Japanese Ware, Toys of all kinds, Cotton Batting, Blanket Robes, Holiday Linens

Second Floor
Purse, Aprons, Petticoats, Dressing Sackies, Muslin Underwear, Bath Robes, Silk Waists, Wrappers, Kimonos, House Dresses, Everything in Infants' wear

SANTA CLAUS
has located his workshop in our large display window. Morning hours—10 to 11:30. Afternoon hours—3 to 5. Evening hours—7 to 8:30

Upholstery Department
Couch Covers, Utility Boxes, Raising Machines

Men's Store
House Coats, Suspenders, Men's Gloves, Cardigans, Men's Caps, Fancy Shirts, Bath Robes, Arm Bands, Silk Half Hose, Sweaters, Men's Jewelry, Night Shirts, Holiday Neckwear

Domestic Dep't.
Special values all this week in Table Linens, Blankets, Etc.

Best quality Turkey Red Damask, value 50c, at . . . **38c**
Bleached and Half-Bleached Table Damask, in a variety of patterns, value 50c, at . . . **49c**
Size 1-1/2 Saffin-Union Napkins, value \$1.50 a dozen, at . . . **88c**
All- linen Napkins, value \$1.50 a dozen, at . . . **\$1.95**
Sanitary Dishpan, value 75c for a piece of 18 yards, price . . . **59c**
English Long Cloth, value \$1.50 for piece of 18 yards, price . . . **95c**
Bleached Sheeting, size 12x36, with wadded center seam, at . . . **29c**
Seamless Sheets, size 61x36, value 95c, at . . . **65c**
Cotton Blankets, in white and gray, value 50c a pair, at . . . **67c**
Woolen Blankets, in white and gray, value \$2.00, at . . . **\$1.45**
White and Gray Wool Blankets, value \$4.50, at . . . **\$3.29**
Faid Blankets, strictly all wool, value \$6.00, at . . . **\$4.95**

THE PORTEOUS & MITCHELL CO.

FEELING AGAINST THE TWO M'NAMARAS.

Carpenters' Union, However, Took No Action Regarding Them.
At the meeting of Carpenters' union on Monday evening in Carpenters' hall two new candidates were initiated and routine matters of business were disposed of.

The union took no action, it was stated, on the matter of the Mc-Namara brothers' confession, but from the sentiment expressed by members outside of the meeting the carpenters were in accord with the labor union men who repudiate these two men as representatives of organized labor.

Ministers' Meeting Deferred.
The meeting of the New London Baptist ministry association, scheduled for Monday at the Montauk Avenue Baptist church, New London, was not held, because many of the ministers could not attend. The meeting will be held next week at the same time and place, and the programme which has been arranged will be carried out.

Going to New York.
Timothy Aloysius Devine, who for the past two years has been employed as foreman of the McCrum-Howell company, has resigned his position to act as manager of a big farm in New York city. His friends gave a bachelor dinner at the Wauregan hotel. In behalf of the West Side Glue club he was presented with a gold watch.

Incidents in Society

Miss Rosalie Bennett of Pracedale, R. I. has returned after a few days spent at her home on Williams street.

Addison Northrup, who has been passing a few days at his home on Beech drive, has returned to Williams college.

Carlton Browning of Columbia University, N. Y., and Edward Browning of the Connecticut agricultural college at Storrs, have left town after spending a few days at their home on Lincoln avenue.

Miss Elita Davenport has returned to Rye seminary after spending a few days at her home on Broad street.

J. Kirby Lewis of Amherst agricultural college, who has been a guest for a few days of Mr. and Mrs. Frank A. Robinson of Sachem street, has returned to college.

Miss Katharine E. Brown, who has been spending a few days in this city, has returned to Farmington.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas H. Peabody and their niece, Miss Alma Larphar of Westerly, were recent guests of Miss Pope.

Miss Helen M. Stearns of McKinley avenue has returned teaching in Hartford after spending the Thanksgiving recess at her home in this city.

Mrs. Raymond Cutler leaves this morning for Boston. She has been visiting a few days with Mr. and Mrs. . . .

IT SAVES YOU MONEY.

Dr. Howard's Dyspepsia Specific.
Regular Price 50c; Utley & Jones' Price 25c.

The special half price sale of Dr. Howard's specific for the cure of dyspepsia and dyspepsia by Utley & Jones means the saving of a few dollars on every family's yearly bill for medicines.

Each 50 cent bottle (Utley & Jones sells it for 25c) contains sixty doses of a medicine that is pleasant to take and which can be depended upon to cure the worst case of constipation, dyspepsia or liver trouble.

This remedy is not an ordinary medicine. It is the favorite formula of a well known physician, and has the endorsement of hundreds of physicians, who prescribe it in all cases of constipation, dyspepsia or liver trouble, knowing from experience that it will make a complete and lasting cure.

A 3 Days' Sale of Gift Books

RICH GILT BINDINGS
at **87c**

A very nice variety of titles and real bargains. This price is for Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, December 4th, 5th and 6th, as on Thursday what are left will be priced at higher figures.

Be on hand and profit by this sale.

CRANSTON & CO.

PIANOS

Before making your purchase, call and see us. Our line includes the well known McPhail, Bush & Geris, Tenk, McCammon and Keller Bros' Pianos. The best medium and high grade lines in the country at moderate cost. All fully guaranteed and sold on easy terms.

Six months' lessons free with each Piano.

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House Furnishers. 39 to 43 Main St.

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Piles Quickly Cured At Home

Instant Relief, Permanent Cure—Trial Package Mailed Free to All in Plain Wrapper.

Many cases of Piles have been cured by a trial package of Pyramid Pile Remedy without further treatment. When it proves its value to you, get more from your druggist at 50c a box, and be sure you get the kind you need. Simply fill out free coupon below and mail today. Save yourself from the surgeon's knife and its torture, the doctor and his bills.

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PYRAMID DRUG COMPANY, 400 Pyramid Bldg., Marshall, Mich. Kindly send me a sample of Pyramid Pile Remedy, at once by mail, FREE, in plain wrapper.

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With the collar on—without. All colors and grades.

WINTER GLOVES from medium to very heavy weights, and an excellent assortment of double hand CAPS that cover up the ears.

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